

Amendments to the Specification:

Replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This application is a 371 of International Application No. PCT/US02/038654, filed December 4, 2003, which claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/431,370, filed December 6, 2002.

Replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] Figs. 9 and 10 are, respectively, a transverse ray fan plot and a polychromatic diffraction MTF plot illustrating the nominal optical performance of the lens assembly of Figs. [[10A]] 8A and [[10B]] 8B using the full 100 pm spectral bandwidth of an F₂ excimer laser from 157.5 nm to 157.6 nm (including weak and strong lines).